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NORTHWEST TERRITORIES LEGAL AID

LEGAL SERVICES BOARD OF THE N.W.T

ANNUAL REPORT

1991-1992

1991-92 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John Vertes, Q.C.	Chairperson/Nominee of Attorney General, Canada*
Geoffrey Bickert, Q.C.	Member of Public Service of the Northwest Territories
Virginia Schuler	Nominee of Law Society of the Northwest Territories
Neil Sharkey, Q.C.	Nominee of Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik**
Peter Westaway	Nominee of Mackenzie Court Workers Services***
Lucy Dillon	Nominee of Arctic Rim Law Centre Society****
Stephen Whipp	Nominee of Arctic Public Legal Education & Information Society*****
Christine Williams	Appointed by Minister of Justice of Government of Northwest Territories, Representative of General Public from December, 1990
Evelyn R. Storr	Appointed by Minister of Justice of Government of Northwest Territories, Representative of General Public
Thomas Kutluk	Nominee of Keewatin Legal Services Centre Society
Joe Otokiok	Nominee of Kitikmeot Regional Council to April 22, 1991
Roger Kuptana	Nominee of Arctic Rim Law Centre Society from July 5, 1991******
Makabe Nartok	Nominee of Kitikmeot Regional Council from July 1, 1991
Douglas Miller	Executive Director/Secretary of Board (ex officio)

Note:

* Mr. Vertes resigned from the Board in September, 1991 following his appointment to the Supreme Court of the NWT.

** Mr. Sharkey's appointment expired June 20, 1991 but he continued serving on the Board until November, 1991 when the Board followed Legal Aid Task Force Recommendation #2 and decided that clinic directors would not be reappointed.

*** Mr. Westaway left the employ of the MacKenzie Court Workers Services in June, 1991 but his appointment to the Legal Services Board was not revoked until after 1991-92 year end. Executive Director Dianne Rattray took Mr. Westaway's place but was not formally appointed to the Board. Ms. Rattray attended Board meetings until November, 1991 when the Board followed Legal Aid Task Force Recommendation #1 and decided that she would not be appointed to the Board.

**** Ms. Dillon tendered her resignation May 10, 1991 but her appointment to the Legal Services Board was not revoked until after 1991-92 year end. She did not attend any Board meetings after May 10, 1991.

***** Mr. Whipp resigned his position with Arctic PLEI February 28, 1991 but his appointment to the Legal Services Board was not revoked until after 1991-92 year end. He did not attend any Board meetings during the year.

****** Mr. Kuptana tendered his resignation on February 14, 1992 but his appointment to the Legal Services Board was not revoked until after 1991-92 year end.

LEGAL SERVICES BOARD OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Twelfth Annual Report 1991/92

Objectives

The objects of the Board, as set forth in the Legal Services Act are:

(a) To ensure the provision of legal services to all eligible persons;

(b) Ensure that the legal services provided and the various systems for providing those services are the best that circumstances permit;

(c) To develop and co-ordinate Territorial or local programs aimed at reducing and preventing the occurrence of legal problems among the people of the NWT; and

(d) Increase peoples' knowledge about the law, legal process and the administration of justice.

The Board of Directors

The members of the Board of Directors are appointed by the Minister of Justice of the Government of the Northwest Territories. In 1991/92 the Board met six times to assist and make recommendations with respect to its program and its administration.

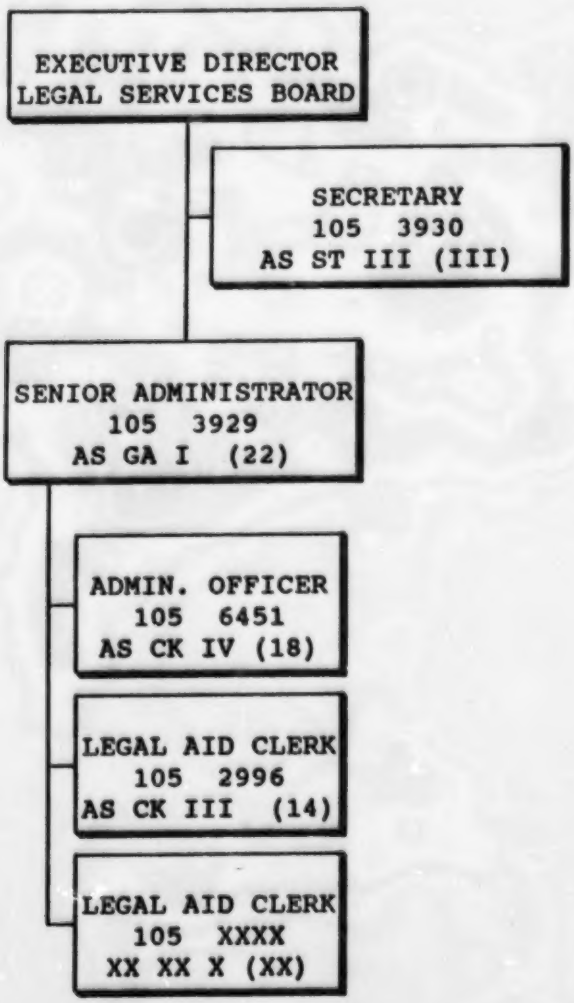
The duty of the Board of Directors is to administer the provisions and regulations of the Legal Services Act and make every effort to meet its objectives. The Board reviews legal services and the performance of Regional Legal Services Committees. The Board is also responsible for coordinating the provision of legal services and publishing details of the services available.

Legal Services Staff

The Executive Director of the Legal Services Board is appointed by the Board and is required under the Legal Services Act to be a barrister and solicitor as well as a member of the Law Society of the Northwest Territories. Douglas Miller was the executive officer of the Board in this year. His responsibilities included supervising the Board's staff, ensuring its responsibilities were carried out, and, acting as secretary ex officio of the Board.

The staff of the Legal Services Board are members of the Public Service of the Northwest Territories. The Administrative Assistant reports to the Executive Director, assesses applicants' entitlement to Legal Aid in criminal matters, and attends to the processing of lawyers' accounts for the services provided by them on the Board's behalf. The Secretary and the Legal Aid Clerk assist both the Executive Director and the Administrative Assistant with their duties. The Administrative Assistant has been on staff since 1984 and the Secretary since 1990. The Clerk position has been filled by a casual employee since October 1991. Funding was provided for an accounts clerk in April 1991. This position was filled by a casual employee. Both the Legal Aid Clerk and the Accounts Clerk positions had new job descriptions written for submission to the Department of Personnel. This will allow classification of the positions before permanent staff are hired.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



LEGAL AID SERVICES

Eligibility for Legal Aid

Under the Legal Services Act, no person other than an individual is eligible for Legal Aid. This would, for example, exclude businesses and corporations from receiving legal aid. To be eligible for Legal Aid, applicants must show they cannot afford to pay a lawyer from their own finances. In determining whether applicants should be approved for Legal Aid, consideration is given to their assets, liabilities, income and expenses, as well as their financial requirements and those of their spouses and dependants.

The Legal Services Act and Regulations describe, in general, those matters for which Legal Aid coverage may be provided. They also describe, more particularly, the restrictions and limitations place upon such coverage. A unique situation arises where an applicant for Legal Aid is charged with an offence which is proceeding, or is likely to proceed, by way of summary conviction. Legal Aid may be denied unless there is a risk of imprisonment or a risk of the applicant's livelihood being prejudiced, if convicted. However, if the applicant is a first time offender, legal aid may be granted to provide advice in a summary conviction matter. If a trial is subsequently scheduled, continuing legal services may be provided.

In civil matters and appeals, the lawyer assigned to a case is required to provide an opinion as to the merits of a claim or appeal before Legal Aid is authorized to continue. In cases of urgency, this requirement may be waived by the Executive Director.

Legal Aid Tariff

There was no change in the Legal Aid tariff of fees paid to lawyers in 1991/92. The current tariff has been in place since April 1, 1987.

Client Contributions

Persons who apply for Legal Aid acknowledge on the Application for Legal Aid that they may be assessed a contribution toward the cost of Legal Aid services incurred on their behalf. If it is determined by the Executive Director that such a contribution is warranted, taking into account the eligible person's financial circumstances, there will be an assessment of a contribution and the funds collected thereby will be paid to the Government of the Northwest Territories General Revenue Fund. In 1990/91, the Board recovered the amount of $25,000. In 1991/92, $25,160 was recovered. The amounts recovered are deducted from the amount claimed in the Territorial Government's claim from the Government of Canada under the Federal/Territorial Legal Aid Cost Sharing Agreement.

TARIFF OF FEES IN CRIMINAL AND CIVIL MATTERS

Individual Cases/per hour	August 1, 1984 to March 31, 1985	April 1, 1985 to March 31, 1987	April 1, 1987 to March 31, 1992
Lawyers with less than 2 years of practice	57.50	60.00	64.00
More than 2 years, but less than 5 years	68.00	70.00	75.00
More than 5 years	83.60	86.00	92.00
Students At Law	30.00	40.00	42.80
Court Circuits/ per day			
Lawyers with less than 2 years	340.00	350.00	375.00
More than 2 years, but less than 5 years	435.00	435.00	465.00
More than 5 years practice	495.00	515.00	550.00

Legal Aid Panel

Lawyers in private practice who are prepared to provide Legal Aid services apply to the Legal Services Board to be appointed to the Legal Aid Panel. To be appointed to the panel, the lawyer must be a member of the Law Society of the Northwest Territories and be prepared to abide by the provisions of the Legal Services Act and Regulations.

In 1991/92, there were 6 lawyers on the panel in the 0-2 year category, 18 lawyers in the 2-5 year category, and 28 lawyers in the 5 years or more category for a total of 45 lawyers. In this regard, it should be noted that more lawyers in the highest category have been providing Legal Aid services for a longer period of time than was previously the case. This has resulted in more experienced lawyers providing legal services to eligible applicants for Legal Aid.

The Board continued its policy of assigning newly admitted members to the Panel to two Territorial Court circuits with experienced counsel prior to being assigned to circuits on their own.

Assignment of Legal Aid Work to Panel Members

Legal Aid work is assigned to members of the Panel on a rotational basis to ensure fairness in the making of such assignments.

Lawyers located in communities other than Yellowknife have priority for Legal Aid assignments in their regions, except where there are conflicts between them and their Legal Aid clients. In such cases, another lawyer from the Legal Aid Panel is assigned to represent the client and to assist the lawyer on a circuit, where appropriate.

The Legal Services Board is required under the Legal Services Act to make arrangements for at least one lawyer to accompany the Supreme and the Territorial Court on all circuits where a lawyer will be required for the provision of Legal Aid on the circuit.

In 1991/92, there were 33 "choice of counsel" matters. A person who is charged with an offence where the maximum penalty, if convicted, is life imprisonment has the right to choose his or her own lawyer in the Northwest Territories. Exceptions to this provision are the offences of Breaking and Entering under the Criminal Code and Trafficking in a Narcotic under the Narcotic Control Act.

Procedures and Policies

Lawyers' accounts are paid according to the Legal Aid Tariff of Fees. Accounts are checked and verified by the Administrative Assistant and then taxed (reviewed) and approved by the Executive Director to determine whether they are reasonable and comply with the provisions of the Legal Services Regulations.

In cases of dispute with a decision of the Executive Director concerning the taxation of an account, a denial of Legal Aid, or the assessment of a contribution from a client, appeals may be made to the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Board. In 1991/92, four appeals in regard to taxation of accounts were taken to the Board. Three of the taxations were upheld on appeal and one appeal was allowed.

There were two appeals to the Board by clients. One client appealed a denial of Legal Aid and the appeal was allowed. The other client appealed a denial of funding for a home study report. The denial was upheld on appeal.

LEGAL AID APPLICATIONS PROCESSED

Criminal Matters	1989/90	1990/91	1991/92
Adult Criminal Approval	1,784	2,291	2,763
Young Offender Approval	496	584	664
Denials	162	97	84
Total Criminal Applications	2,442	2,972	3,511
Civil/Family Matters			
Approvals	446	493	603
Denials	152	165	140
Total Civil Applications	598	658	743
Total Number of Persons Approved	2,726	3,368	4,030
Total Number of Persons Denied	314	262	224
Total Applications Processed	**3,040**	**3,630**	**4,254**

NOTE: These figures only represent new applications received in a particular fiscal year. There are, in addition to the new matters, a large number of ongoing matters from previous years.

DESCRIPTION OF CHARGES FOR WHICH LEGAL AID APPLICATIONS WERE RECEIVED

Adult Criminal (by charge)

Murder	6
Attempted Murder	9
Sexual Offences	279
Weapons Offences	242
Possession of Stolen Property	45
Robbery	18
Break and Enter	473
Theft Over $1,000	27
Theft Under $1,000	90
Other Theft	56
Assault	888
Fraud	43
Mischief/Property Offences	152
Conspiracy	1
Motor Vehicle Offences*	449
Escaping Custody	99
Territorial Laws/Federal Laws**	137
Narcotic Control Act/Food and Drug Act	140
Appeals/Reviews	82
Breach (Probation/Undertaking)	173
Other	351

* Impaired Driving Charges

** Liquor Act, Motor Vehicle Act, etc.

Note

One individual or one file may have two or more charges.

Statistics reflect the number of times a particular charge appeared on Legal Aid Applications. Not all charges were approved for Legal Aid.

DESCRIPTION OF CHARGES FOR WHICH LEGAL AID APPLICATIONS WERE RECEIVED

Young Offender (by charge)

Attempted Murder	1
Sexual Offences	50
Weapons Offences	60
Possession of Stolen Property	11
Robbery	4
Break and Enter	345
Theft Over $1,000	17
Theft Under $1,000	52
Other Theft	24
Assault	72
Fraud	3
Mischief/Property Offences	52
Kidnapping	1
Motor Vehicle Offences*	61
Escaping Custody	8
Territorial Laws/Federal Laws**	51
Narcotic Control Act/Food and Drug Act	9
Appeal/Review	14
Breach (Probation/Undertaking)	24
Other	75

* Impaired Driving Charges

** Liquor Act, Motor Vehicle Act, etc.

Note

One individual or one file may have two or more charges.

Statistics reflect the number of times a particular charge appeared on Legal Aid Applications. Not all charges were approved for Legal Aid.

DESCRIPTION OF MATTERS FOR WHICH LEGAL AID APPLICATIONS WERE RECEIVED

Civil/Family Law (by matter)

Divorce	140
Separation	25
Maintenance	211
Custody	134
Division of Property	10
Possession of Matrimonial Home	1
Child Welfare Matters	45
Damage Claims	25
Injury Claims	10
Wrongful Dismissal	14
Administration Matters*	27
Other Matters	70

* Appeals of Decisions of Statutory Boards

Note

One individual or one file may involve more than one matter.

Statistics reflect the number of times a particular matter appeared on Legal Aid Applications. Not all matters were approved for Legal Aid.

STAFF REPORT

The Legal Aid office is located on the first floor of the Goga Cho Building in Yellowknife. In 1991/92, this space was shared with Mackenzie Court Workers Services and the Arctic Public Legal Education & Information Society. The Court Workers were responsible for assisting the public with Applications for Legal Aid at the Legal Aid office and this service was greatly appreciated. This relieved the Legal Aid staff of having to provide this often time-consuming service. Throughout the course of the year, persons seeking information or preventative counselling contacted the Legal Aid office directly, but were referred to the Law Line operated by Arctic PLEI, except in cases of urgency.

The Executive Director considered a few complaints by eligible persons against members of the Legal Aid Panel but in most instances the differences were resolved or the persons were assigned to other counsel. Given the number of persons who were assisted in the year by Legal Aid, there were remarkably few complaints or changes.

The Legal Aid staff assisted members of the Legal Aid Panel in making travel arrangements for themselves and witnesses throughout the course of the year. In this respect, the staff assists counsel by requesting travel and accommodation warrants from the Department of Justice.

Staff also advised panel members of reports of cases or memorandums of law which may be of interest to them. When requested, staff provided copies to panel members.

In August 1991, the Executive Director attended the Association of Legal Aid Plans of Canada annual meeting in Gull Harbour, Manitoba with Board member Thomas Kutluk and Clinic Director Agnes Krantz. In addition, the Executive Director attended the annual meeting of the National Legal Aid and Defender Association in Portland, Oregon in October 1991.

The Executive Director was also elected President of the Northwest Territories branch of the Canadian Bar Association in 1991.

Northwest Territories Legal Aid has an informal agreement with other Legal Aid programs in Canada to provide Non-Resident Civil Legal Aid which ensures that residents of the Northwest Territories who are eligible for Legal Aid are provided civil Legal Aid services in other provinces or territories.

In 1991/92 financial restraint measures were implemented by the Government of the Northwest Territories. As a result, several restraint measures were implemented by the Legal Services Board for the final quarter of the 1991/92 fiscal year. These measures included limitations on preparation and reporting time for court circuits as well as assigning only one counsel to each circuit. In addition, caps were placed on the number of hours lawyers could bill for particular legal services. Finally, all authorization limits set by the Executive Director had to be strictly adhered to as there was no retroactive approval of accounts which exceeded the authorized limit.

The Report of the Task Force on Legal Aid in the Northwest Territories was presented to the Legal Services Board at its meeting on November 26 and 27, 1991. The report was accepted by the Board at the meeting and tabled for discussion. The report was also tabled in the Legislative Assembly in December 1991. The task force was appointed by the Legal Services Board at its June 1990 meeting and consisted of five members who had experience with different aspects of the legal aid system. Its mandate was to investigate, examine and report on the legal aid system in the Northwest Territories and to make recommendations as to how it could be improved. The report contained sixty-five recommendations regarding service, delivery, organizational and financial issues. An implementation committee was established by the Legal Services Board to oversee the implementation of the recommendations which the task force suggested be implemented immediately. The committee planned to meet early in the 1992/93 fiscal year to discuss the implementation of the recommendations.

REGIONAL LEGAL SERVICES COMMITTEES
&
LEGAL INFORMATION SERVICES

The Legal Services Board is the parent agency for Mackenzie Court Workers Services, Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik, the Arctic Rim Law Centre Society, Keewatin Legal Services Centre Society, Arctic Public Legal Education & Information Society and the Kitikmeot Courtworker Program. It is the Board's responsibility to ensure these programmes have adequate funding to carry out their respective programs and to keep their performance and programs under review.

The funding for the programs is cost shared between the Federal and Territorial Departments of Justice. The funding for Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik, Arctic Rim Law Centre Society, Keewatin Legal Services Centre Society, and Kitikmeot Courtworker Program is cost shared on a 50/50 basis between both levels of government under the Legal Aid Cost Sharing Agreement.

The funding for Mackenzie Court Workers Services is cost shared on the same basis as the other programs but pursuant to a separate agreement under the Native Court Worker Program of the Department of Justice, Canada. This agreement is under review and it is expected that a portion, if not all of the funding for this program, will eventually fall under the Legal Aid Cost Sharing Agreement. This will allow the program to offer more legal services than it is authorized to provide under the current agreement.

The funding for Arctic Public Legal Education & Information Society (Arctic PLEI) is contributed by various sources including the Departments of Justice, Canada and the N.W.T., the Law Foundation of the Northwest Territories, and other sources as determined by contractual arrangements or contributions made with or to the society. The Legal Services Board is responsible for ensuring that this program receives adequate funding from the Department of Justice, N.W.T.

Mackenzie Court Workers Services, Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik, Arctic Rim Law Centre Society, Keewatin Legal Services Centre Society and Arctic PLEI are incorporated non profit societies which have their own boards of directors and employ their own staff to carry out their programs. The Kitikmeot Courtworker Program is administered by the Kitikmeot Regional Council pursuant to an administration agreement with the Legal Services Board.

Mackenzie Court Workers Services

This organization is responsible for providing court worker services in the North Slave, South Slave, Deh Cho, Sahtu and Delta regions of the Western Northwest Territories.

In 1991/92, courtworkers were located in Yellowknife, Fort Smith, Hay River, Fort Franklin, Inuvik and Fort Simpson. Courtworkers assisted persons with legal problems from these communities as well as the surrounding areas. They acted as a liaison between the people and the justice system and assisted persons in completing Applications for Legal Aid. As well, they provided people with legal information, represented people in Justice of the Peace Court, Youth Court, and Territorial Court when they could not otherwise or chose not to be represented by a lawyer. In this regard, however, their responsibility was to represent those persons who were charged with offences which were proceeding by way of, or likely to proceed by way of, summary conviction and were pleading guilty to the charges in question.

The Executive Director, Peter Westaway, left the employ of the Mackenzie Court Workers Services in June of 1991 and was replaced by Dianne Rattray. The Executive Director supervises 9 courtworkers and a head office staff consisting of an Administrative Assistant, a Senior Court Worker/Trainer and a secretary.

In 1991/92, two training sessions were held for courtworkers. As well, their staff visited schools and other institutions on a periodic basis to provide information about their services. Assistance was also provided to the public by the Court Workers in the areas of name changes, custom adoptions, amending probation orders, fine extensions, and assisting young persons with legal problems.

Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik

Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik is a community based and incorporated Legal Aid Society for the Baffin Region. Maliiganik maintains full time staff at Iqaluit and Pond Inlet. The Iqaluit office services mostly the South Baffin Region and the Pond inlet office the High Arctic Region.

Maliiganik maintains contact with the communities outside Iqaluit and Pond Inlet through a network of settlement representatives. These persons are often referred to as courtworkers because most of their work involves representing people in Court or interviewing (intake) for various civil problems. The settlement representatives are also responsible for maintaining a community link with the Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik Board.

The Board itself consists of local Inuit (mostly unilingual elders) from the greater Iqaluit area who are elected every one or two years by popular vote at a public annual general meeting. Though residents of Iqaluit, many of the members are originally from outlying communities and maintain community contact through their extended families. Some of them travel extensively throughout the Baffin as part of their employment.

Maliiganik allots approximately 2% of its overall budget to Board honoraria and other related expenses; therefore it is impossible to have Board members from outside the Iqaluit area attend monthly meetings on any regular basis. The area settlement representatives are familiar with justice related issues in their communities and attend Maliiganik Board meetings on a rotational basis.

During the fiscal year April 1, 1991 to March 31, 1992, Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik maintained a settlement representative (courtworker) in each of the following communities:

Cape Dorset	Clyde River
Igloolik	Lake Harbour
Pangnirtung	Arctic Bay
Resolute Bay	Broughton Island

No settlement representatives were maintained in the communities of Sanikiluaq, Hall Beach and Grise Fiord during that period.

The community courtworkers report to a full time courtworker coordinator. The coordinator supervises the courtworkers and maintains monthly activity reports as well as providing training. During 1991/92 the coordinator made several community visits in order to provide individual courtworker training. In March 1992, community courtworkers travelled to Iqaluit for a week long training seminar which was conducted partially in conjunction with the Baffin Region Justice of the Peace training seminar.

The staff at the Iqaluit office for 1991/92 consisted of:

Lawyer/Director
Office Manager
Courtworker/Interpreter/Translator
Iqaluit Courtworker
Legal Secretary
Receptionist

The Iqaluit courtworker is expected to do all intake and completion of Justice of the Peace criminal cases including the conduct of trials. This courtworker also acts for persons in custody at contested bail hearings. Justice of the Peace Court is held every Friday in Iqaluit. It is generally conducted in English; sometimes and more frequently now, it is conducted in Inuktitut. Territorial Court was held in Iqaluit one week out of every four weeks during 1991/92. The Iqaluit courtworker is expected to assist with the intake on indictable matters for this court. The Iqaluit courtworker/interpreter/translator assists the lawyer/director on individual criminal files and does intake for civil matters, many of which involve unilingual clients. Civil files are generally more time-consuming than criminal files, and the courtworker is often required to complete and translate affidavits required for the civil matters. An Iqaluit courtworker may accompany the Territorial Court on circuit if there is an especially busy docket in a community where the regular settlement representative/courtworker may be less experienced. This can result in a significant cost saving to the Court by reducing delays.

The Pond Inlet office for 1991/92 was staffed as follows:

High Arctic Lawyer
Courtworker/Interpreter/Translator (part time position)
Secretary/Receptionist (part time position)
Courtworker Coordinator

The High Arctic office maintains Maliiganik's link to the North Baffin Region. The courtworker/interpreter/translator is a half time position, but it is critical in this office because many of the clients are unilingual. Newly recruited courtworkers are sometimes sent to the Pond Inlet office for small group initial training with the courtworker coordinator. Additionally, the courtworker coordinator is responsible for categorizing the various levels of courtworker competence, which in turn determines what they are allowed to do in Justice of the Peace Court (for example, trial as opposed to merely sentencing matters).

Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik's case load statistics for 1991/92 are as follows:

CRIMINAL	
Adult Criminal	
Clients (persons)	1,470
Charges(s)	3,350
Youth Criminal	
Clients (persons)	216
Charge(s)	421
CIVIL	
Clients (persons)	122

Keewatin Legal Services Centre Society

The lawyer/director of this program for the majority of the 1991/92 fiscal year was Agnes Krantz. Ms. Krantz resigned on February 26, 1992, and the position was vacant for the balance of the 1991/92 fiscal year. The Society also employed one courtworker and a secretary in 1991/92 at its office in Rankin Inlet.

As well, it employed two part-time courtworkers who were located at Baker Lake and Arviat to assist persons in those communities with their legal problems and to assist them in completing Applications for Legal Aid. The court worker position in Baker Lake was vacant from October 18, 1991 to December 3, 1991.

During the 1991/92 year, the Society opened a total of 361 files as follows:

	Criminal	Civil	Young Offender
Rankin Inlet	178	27	2
Arviat	47	11	23
Baker Lake	50	23	0

Arctic Rim Law Centre Society

Heidi Breier was the lawyer/director of the Arctic Rim Law Centre Society until March 26, 1992. The society's office is located at Tuktoyaktuk and employs a courtworker, office manager and secretary. The position of lawyer/director has not been filled since Ms. Breier's departure.

The society is responsible for providing Legal Aid services to that community as well as Paulatuk, Holman and Sachs Harbour. The Society maintained part-time court workers in Paulatuk and Holman in 1991/92.

In 1991/92, the centre opened 163 direct Legal Aid service files and had approximately 371 summary contacts for which no files were opened.

Arctic Public Legal Education & Information Society

Arctic PLEI is in Yellowknife and was the designated organization in the Northwest Territories for providing legal education and information programs throughout this jurisdiction in 1991/92.

In 1991/92, Pearl Benyk was the program's executive director. The program also employed an administrative assistant.

The program was active in a number of projects in 1991/92. Several initiatives were undertaken in the area of victim's assistance, including the preparation of a victim's assistance guide and a workshop on family violence. In addition, a number of projects in regard to Youth and Crime, and Women and the Law were carried out. On-going programmes included the Law-Line, speakers bureau, law day seminars, supplying information to schools and the distribution of printed materials and videos.

Arctic PLEI's involvement with the Public Legal Education Association of Newfoundland in the Oral Culture Family Violence Theatre project neared its conclusion in 1991/92. The project, which was funded by the Donner Foundation, the Women's Secretariat, Department of Social Services, Department of Justice, and Department of Education produced a handbook and video to assist community groups in dealing with family violence.

Kitikmeot Courtworker Program

The Kitikmeot Courtworker Program commenced operations in September, 1990. The program is administered by the Kitikmeot Regional Council pursuant to an administration agreement with the Legal Services Board. It is planned that a legal services centre society will be formed in 1992/93. This program will employ a lawyer/director to provide legal services to the people of the Kitikmeot Region.

A Court worker/Supervisor was located in Cambridge Bay. A full time court worker was located in Coppermine and part-time courtworkers are located in Pelly Bay, Taloyoak, and Gjoa Haven. They are responsible for assisting people who have legal problems and for assisting them in completing Applications for Legal Aid.

Financial Administration

The Legal Services Board's financial administration is provided by the Department of Justice, Government of the Northwest Territories, Finance & Administration Division. In this regard, all accounts are paid, after being processed through the Legal Aid office, by the Government of the Northwest Territories.

All financial information pertaining to the operations of the Board are included with that of the Department of Justice in the Government's Financial Information System and statements are provided to the Board on a monthly basis.

As well, the Board is responsible for ensuring that the programs it funds receive their contributions from the Department of Justice, usually on a monthly basis.

The Board has administration agreements with the various programs which sets forth the terms under which such contributions are to be made including the requirement to provide Statements of Revenue & Expenditures and audited financial statements at the year end.

EXPENDITURE REPORT

	1990-91 Budget	1990-91 Actuals	1991-92 Budget	1991-92 Actuals
1. Salaries, Wages Benefits	128,000	149,166	174,000	198,296
Total Salaries/Wages	128,000	149,166	174,000	198,296
2. Contributions				
Mackenzie Court Workers	646,000	668,000	668,000	687,000
Maliiganik Tuk.	515,000	530,000	530,000	545,000
Arctic Rim Law	208,000	225,000	213,000	260,000
Arctic PLEI	62,000	83,045	69,000	71,000
Keewatin Legal Serv.	259,000	282,404	261,000	267,000
Kitikmeot Courtworker	116,000	51,032	216,000	151,000
Total Contribution	1,806,000	1,839,481	1,957,000	1,981,000
3. Other Travel & Trans	343,000	304,237	400,000	310,416
Materials & Supp.	15,000	13,648	8,000	11,661
Purchase Serv.	25,000	56,911	35,000	58,598
Contract Serv.	65,000	108,058	90,000	111,963
Fees & Payments	1,330,000	2,167,177	1,700,000	2,269,000
Other	1,000	5,627	5,000	8,028
Total Other	1,779,000	2,655,658	2,238,000	2,769,666
TOTAL	3,713,000	4,644,305	4,369,000	4,948,962

NOTE

These statements are unaudited and represent expenditures as provided by the Financial Information System of the Government of the Northwest Territories. The 1991-92 budget amounts are those which were approved at the beginning of the fiscal year by the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories.

The budget was increased during the course of the year due to increases in salaries for employees of programs funded by the Board, rent increases, increases in expenditures for travel and transportation, and increased fees and payments. Increased funding was obtained by way of supplementary funding requests and a special warrant.

Consequently, the 1991-92 Revised Budget was increased by the Department of Justice, GNWT in the amount of $673,000 in order to meet outstanding commitments. After accounting for the increase in the budget, there was a surplus of approximately $93,038 at the end of the fiscal year.